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This notice is distributed by mail to several hundred subscribers; if you no longer wish to receive it, or would like to be added to the distribution, please contact the Office of the Secretary, Washington, DC 20555 (301-415-1969). In addition, distribution of this meeting notice over the Internet system is available. If you are interested in receiving this Commission meeting schedule electronically, please send an electronic message to [dkw@nrc.gov](mailto:dkw@nrc.gov).

Dated: November 22, 2006.

**R. Michelle Schroll,**

*Office of the Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 06-9450 Filed 11-24-06; 10:27 am]

**BILLING CODE 7590-01-M**

## OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

### Excepted Service

**AGENCY:** Office of Personnel Management (OPM).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This gives notice of OPM decisions granting authority to make appointments under Schedules A, B, and C in the excepted service as required by 5 CFR 6.6 and 213.103.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** C. Penn, Executive Resources Services Group, Center for Human Resources, Division for Human Capital Leadership and Merit System Accountability, 202-606-2246.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Appearing in the listing below are the individual authorities established under Schedules A, B, and C between September 1, 2006, and September 31, 2006. Future notices will be published on the fourth Tuesday of each month, or as soon as possible thereafter. A consolidated listing of all authorities as of June 30 is published each year.

### Schedule A

No Schedule A appointments were approved for September 2006.

### Schedule B

No Schedule B appointments were approved for September 2006.

### Schedule C

The following Schedule C appointments were approved during September 2006:

#### *Section 213.3303 Executive Office of the President*

Office of Management and Budget

BOGS60906 Special Assistant to the Deputy Director for Management to the Deputy Director for Management. Effective September 13, 2006.

BOGS60907 Confidential Assistant to the Associate Director for Natural Resource Programs. Effective September 20, 2006.

Office of National Drug Control Policy

QQGS60099 Project Manager to the Deputy Director for Demand Reduction. Effective September 6, 2006.

QQGS60098 Special Assistant to the Associate Director for Legislative Affairs to the Associate Director Office of Legislative Affairs. Effective September 13, 2006.

Office of the United States Trade Representative

TNGS60025 Deputy Assistant United States Trade Representative for Congressional Affairs to the Assistant United States Trade Representative for Congressional Affairs. Effective September 20, 2006.

#### *Section 213.334 Department of State*

DSGS61114 Staff Assistant to the Under Secretary for Arms Control and Security Affairs. Effective September 1, 2006.

DSGS61117 Special Assistant to the Counselor. Effective September 01, 2006.

DSGS61118 Senior Advisor to the Assistant Secretary for Western Hemispheric Affairs. Effective September 1, 2006.

DSGS61116 Special Assistant to the Deputy Assistant Secretary. Effective September 6, 2006.

DSGS61120 Staff Assistant to the Director, Office of International Visitors. Effective September 14, 2006.

DSGS61119 Staff Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for International Organizational Affairs. Effective September 5, 2006.

DSGS61121 Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for International Organizational Affairs. Effective September 15, 2006.

DSGS61122 Public Affairs Specialist (Speechwriter) to the Assistant Secretary for European Affairs. Effective September 27, 2006.

DSGS61123 Staff Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Western Hemispheric Affairs. Effective September 27, 2006.

DSGS61124 Coordinator to the Under Secretary for Global Affairs. Effective September 29, 2006.

#### *Section 213.335 Department of the Treasury*

DYGS00477 Senior Advisor to the Assistant Secretary (Tax Policy). Effective September 01, 2006.

DYGS00453 Media Coordinator to the Assistant Secretary (Public Affairs). Effective September 08, 2006.

DYGS00462 Senior Advisor to the Under Secretary (International Affairs) for International Affairs. Effective September 08, 2006.

DYGS00478 Senior Writer to the Treasurer of the United States. Effective September 18, 2006.

DYGS00464 Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary (Deputy Under Secretary) for Legislative Affairs. Effective September 20, 2006.

#### *Section 213.336 Department of Defense*

DDGS16979 Personal and Confidential Assistant to the General Counsel. Effective September 01, 2006.

DDGS16983 Defense Fellow to the Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for White House Liaison. Effective September 06, 2006.

DDGS16987 Public Affairs Specialist to the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs. Effective September 13, 2006.

DDGS16988 Executive Assistant to the Director, Operational Test and Evaluation. Effective September 25, 2006.

#### *Section 213.337 Department of the Army*

DWGS60021 Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of Army (Installations and Environment) (Installations and Environment). Effective September 13, 2006.

DWGS60022S Personal and Confidential Assistant to the Executive Director, Strategy and Performance Planning. Effective September 20, 2006.

#### *Section 213.338 Department of the Navy*

DNGS6413 Confidential Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of Navy (Installations and Environment). Effective September 05, 2006.

DNGS6414 Staff Assistant to the Under Secretary of the Navy. Effective September 05, 2006.

*Section 213.339 Department of the Air Force*

DFGS60013 Special Counsel and Special Assistant to the General Counsel. Effective September 29, 2006.

*Section 213.3310 Department of Justice*

DJGS00244 Confidential Assistant to the Assistant Attorney General. Effective September 01, 2006.

DJGS00039 Special Assistant to the Chairman. Effective September 13, 2006.

DJGS00246 Counsel to the Assistant Attorney General Environment and Natural Resources. Effective September 22, 2006.

DJGS00322 Counsel to the Assistant Attorney General (Legal Policy). Effective September 22, 2006.

DJGS00121 Senior Counsel to the Assistant Attorney General. Effective September 27, 2006.

*Section 213.3311 Department of Homeland Security*

DMGS00569 Legislative Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Intergovernmental Affairs. Effective September 01, 2006.

DMGS00572 Confidential Assistant to the Director to the Director, Office of Screening Coordination. Effective September 01, 2006.

DMGS00573 Deputy Director of Secretarial Briefing Book to the Executive Secretary. Effective September 13, 2006.

DMGS00574 Policy Analyst to the Assistant Secretary for Private Sector. Effective September 13, 2006.

DMGS00570 Confidential Assistant to the Director, National Capital Region Coordination. Effective September 18, 2006.

DMGS00571 Writer-Editor to the Executive Secretary. Effective September 18, 2006.

DMGS00576 Press Assistant to the Press Secretary. Effective September 22, 2006.

*Section 213.3312 Department of the Interior*

DIGS01078 Counselor to the Assistant Secretary—Water and Science for Water and Science. Effective September 20, 2006.

DIGS01075 Associate Director—External and Intergovernmental Affairs to the Director, External and Intergovernmental Affairs. Effective September 25, 2006.

*Section 213.3313 Department of Agriculture*

DAGS00860 Special Assistant to the Secretary. Effective September 6, 2006.

DAGS00862 Confidential Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations. Effective September 14, 2006.

DAGS00863 Director of External Affairs to the Administrator, Farm Service Agency. Effective September 18, 2006.

DAGS00861 Deputy Director, Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives to the Director of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. Effective September 20, 2006.

*Section 213.3314 Department of Commerce*

DCGS00252 Confidential Assistant to the Director, Executive Secretariat. Effective September 1, 2006.

DCGS00361 Chief of Congressional Affairs to the Associate Director for Communications. Effective September 1, 2006.

DCGS00451 Senior Advisor to the Under Secretary for International Trade. Effective September 1, 2006.

DCGS00684 Director of Speechwriting to the Director of Public Affairs. Effective September 27, 2006.

DCGS00544 Special Assistant to the Under Secretary for International Trade. Effective September 28, 2006.

DCGS00642 Protocol Officer to the Chief of Staff. Effective September 28, 2006.

*Section 213.3315 Department of Labor*

DLGS60084 Special Assistant to the Associate Deputy Secretary. Effective September 13, 2006.

DLGS60163 Chief of Staff to the Assistant Secretary for Occupational Safety and Health. Effective September 13, 2006.

DLGS60011 Staff Assistant to the Director, 21st Century Office and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Intergovernmental Affairs. Effective September 22, 2006.

DLGS60092 Attorney Adviser to the Solicitor of Labor. Effective September 22, 2006.

DLGS60147 Attorney Adviser to the Solicitor of Labor. Effective September 22, 2006.

DLGS60175 Senior Advisor to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy. Effective September 22, 2006.

*Section 213.3316 Department of Health and Human Services*

DHGS60010 Confidential Assistant (Faith-Based) to the Director, Center for Faith-Based and Community

Initiatives. Effective September 22, 2006.

DHGS60041 Special Assistant to the Deputy Commissioner for Policy. Effective September 29, 2006.

*Section 213.3317 Department of Education*

DBGS00565 Confidential Assistant to the Director, Office of Educational Technology. Effective September 13, 2006.

DBGS00566 Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Planning, Evaluation, and Policy. Effective September 28, 2006.

*Section 213.3318 Environmental Protection Agency*

EPGS06022 Program Advisor to the Associate Administrator for Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations. Effective September 1, 2006.

EPGS06023 Senior Speechwriter to the Associate Administrator for Public Affairs. Effective September 13, 2006.

EPGS06024 Associate Assistant Administrator to the Assistant Administrator for Solid Waste and Emergency Response. Effective September 15, 2006.

EPGS06025 Senior Strategic Scheduler to the Deputy Chief of Staff (Operations). Effective September 29, 2006.

EPGS06027 Director of Advance to the Deputy Chief of Staff (Operations). Effective September 29, 2006.

*Section 213.3331 Department of Energy*

DEGS00542 Special Assistant to the Director, Public Affairs. Effective September 13, 2006.

*Section 213.3332 Small Business Administration*

SBGS60190 Deputy Chief of Staff to the Chief of Staff. Effective September 13, 2006.

SBGS00604 Director of Scheduling and Advance to the Chief of Staff. Effective September 15, 2006.

SBGS00603 Policy Analyst to the Associate Administrator for Policy. Effective September 22, 2006.

*Section 213.3337 General Services Administration*

GSGS00177 Deputy Chief of Staff to the Chief of Staff. Effective September 01, 2006.

GSGS00181 Public Affairs Assistant to the Deputy Associate Administrator for Communications. Effective September 13, 2006.

*Section 213.3339 United States  
International Trade Commission*

TCGS00012 Confidential Assistant to a  
Commissioner. Effective September  
20, 2006.

*Section 213.3384 Department of  
Housing and Urban Development*

DUGS60338 Special Policy Advisor to  
the Assistant Secretary for Housing,  
Federal Housing Commissioner.  
Effective September 13, 2006.

DUGS60210 Special Assistant to the  
Assistant Secretary for Congressional  
and Intergovernmental Relations.  
Effective September 20, 2006.

DUGS60423 Staff Assistant to the  
Assistant Secretary for  
Administration/Chief Human Capital  
Officer. Effective September 25, 2006.

*Section 213.33 Merit Systems  
Protection Board*

MPSL00001 Chief Counsel to the Vice-  
Chair to the Vice Chairman. Effective  
September 22, 2006.

*Section 213.33 National Endowment  
for the Humanities*

NHGS60077 Senior Advisor to the  
Chairman to the Chairman. Effective  
September 13, 2006.

NHGS60075 Director of  
Communications to the Deputy  
Chairman. Effective September 20,  
2006.

Office of Personnel Management.

**Dan G. Blair,**

*Deputy Director.*

[FR Doc. 06-9434 Filed 11-27-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6325-39-M**

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

### Proposed Collection; Comment Request

Upon written request, copies available  
from: Securities and Exchange  
Commission, Office of Filings and  
Information Services, Washington, DC  
20549.

Extension: Rule 12b-1, SEC File No. 270-  
188, OMB Control No. 3235-0212.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant  
to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995  
(44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*) the Securities  
and Exchange Commission (the  
"Commission") is soliciting comments  
on the collections of information  
summarized below. The Commission  
plans to submit these existing  
collections of information to the Office  
of Management and Budget ("OMB") for  
extension and approval.

Rule 12b-1 (17 CFR 270.12b-1)  
permits a registered open-end

investment company ("mutual fund") to  
distribute its own shares and pay the  
expenses of distribution out of the  
mutual fund's assets provided, among  
other things, that the mutual fund  
adopts a written plan ("Rule 12b-1  
plan") and has in writing any  
agreements relating to the  
implementation of the Rule 12b-1 plan.  
The rule in part requires that (i) the  
adoption or material amendment of a  
Rule 12b-1 plan be approved by the  
mutual fund's directors and  
shareholders; (ii) the board review  
quarterly reports of amounts spent  
under the Rule 12b-1 plan; and (iii) the  
board consider continuation of the Rule  
12b-1 plan at least annually. Rule 12b-  
1 also requires funds relying on the rule  
to preserve for six years, the first two  
years in an easily accessible place,  
copies of the Rule 12b-1 plan, related  
agreements and reports, as well as  
minutes of board meetings that describe  
the factors considered and the basis for  
adopting or continuing a Rule 12b-1  
plan.

The board and shareholder approval  
requirements of Rule 12b-1 are  
designed to ensure that fund  
shareholders and directors receive  
adequate information to evaluate and  
approve a Rule 12b-1 plan. The  
requirement of quarterly reporting to the  
board is designed to ensure that the  
Rule 12b-1 plan continues to benefit the  
fund and its shareholders. The  
recordkeeping requirements of the rule  
are necessary to enable Commission  
staff to oversee compliance with the  
rule.

The number of hours required to  
comply with Rule 12b-1 will vary  
considerably depending on several  
factors, including the complexity of the  
plan and the number of classes of fund  
shares covered by the plan, and is  
expected to be higher in the first year  
following adoption of the proposed  
amendments than in subsequent years.  
Based on information filed with the  
Commission by funds, Commission staff  
estimates that there are approximately  
6,536 mutual fund portfolios with Rule  
12b-1 plans.

Rule 12b-1 requires the board of each  
fund with a Rule 12b-1 plan to (i)  
review quarterly reports of amounts  
spent under the plan, (ii) annually  
consider the plan's continuation (which  
generally is combined with the fourth  
quarterly review), (iii) have each fund  
document the policies and procedures it  
has implemented to enable it to effect  
portfolio securities transactions through  
an executing broker that also distributes  
the fund's shares, and (iv) approve those  
policies and procedures.

The number of annual responses per  
fund portfolio will be four per year.  
Thus, there will be an estimated 26,144  
industry responses (6,536 fund  
portfolios  $\times$  4 responses per fund  
portfolio = 26,144 responses) in the first  
year and in each subsequent year. Thus,  
we estimate that there will be an average  
of 26,144 industry responses per year  
over the three year period for which we  
are requesting approval of the  
information collection burden.

Based on conversations with fund  
industry representatives, Commission  
staff estimates that for each of the 6,536  
mutual fund portfolios that currently  
have a Rule 12b-1 plan, the average  
annual burden of complying with the  
rule is 100 hours to maintain the plan.  
This estimate takes into account the  
time needed to prepare quarterly reports  
to the board of directors, the board's  
consideration of those reports, and the  
board's annual consideration of the  
plan's continuation. The total burden  
hours per year for all fund portfolios to  
comply with current information  
collection requirements under Rule  
12b-1, therefore, is estimated to be  
653,600 hours (6,536 fund portfolios  $\times$   
100 hours per fund portfolio = 653,600  
hours). The annual cost of the hourly  
burden per fund under the rule is  
estimated to be \$11,135.00. Thus, we  
estimate that the total annual cost to all  
funds of the Rule 12b-1 hour burden is  
\$72,778,360.00 (6,536 fund portfolios  
with Rule 12b-1 plans  $\times$  \$11,135.00 per  
fund portfolio = \$72,778,360.00).

If a currently operating fund seeks to  
(i) adopt a new Rule 12b-1 plan or (ii)  
materially increase the amount it spends  
for distribution under its Rule 12b-1  
plan, Rule 12b-1 requires that the fund  
obtain shareholder approval. As a  
consequence, the fund will incur the  
cost of a proxy. Based on conversations  
with fund industry representatives,  
Commission staff estimates that  
approximately three funds per year  
prepare a proxy in connection with the  
adoption or material amendment of a  
Rule 12b-1 plan. The staff further  
estimates that the cost of each fund's  
proxy is \$30,000. Thus the total annual  
cost burden of Rule 12b-1 to the fund  
industry is \$90,000 (3 funds requiring a  
proxy  $\times$  \$30,000 per proxy).

The collections of information  
required by Rule 12b-1 are necessary to  
obtain the benefits of the rule. Notices  
to the Commission will not be kept  
confidential. An agency may not  
conduct or sponsor, and a person is not  
required to respond to a collection of  
information unless it displays a  
currently valid control number.

Written comments are invited on: (a)  
Whether the proposed collection of